

IDAHO IDEAS.

What a Resident Thinks of It.
W. C. B. Allen, Esq., traffic agent of the Oregon Short Line Railway, with headquarters at Shoshone, Idaho, is in the city on business which will occupy two or three days' time, the Paxton being his headquarters. Mr. Allen was for several years a resident of Omaha, and is probably one of the best posted men on the resources of the great country west of the Missouri river than can be found anywhere. He has been making a holiday visit to his old home in Ohio, and is now on his way back to the mountains to prepare for the spring and summer campaign of 1887.

There was probably never before a time when the attention of the public was so generally directed toward any region as it is at present to that traversed by the Oregon short line, the longest and most important of all the Union Pacific's branch lines. A new era of development for the next few years than can be found anywhere. He has been making a holiday visit to his old home in Ohio, and is now on his way back to the mountains to prepare for the spring and summer campaign of 1887.

The resources of this region consist principally of mineral, live stock, timber and grain or agricultural products. During the past six months there has been witnessed a very large expansion of mining industry, especially in Idaho, to which reference will be more particularly made in this article. The construction of the Oregon short line has enabled mine owners and capitalists to receive machinery at very much less cost than in former days, while a general improvement in financial circles has led to the development of many new properties. Take the Wood River district of Central Idaho for example, which yields the galena, or silver bearing lead ores. The output from these mines since July 1, 1886, shows an increase of over 100 per cent over that of the previous six months. Three of the principal mines gave the following record for eleven months of the last year:

Minnie Moore, 7,681,638 lbs.
Queen of the Hills, 5,693,916 lbs.
Idahoan, 5,229,340.

All these are in the Wood River district. The percentage of lead to the ton is 55, with 100 ounces of silver.

The live stock traffic of that country has grown in the past two years to be one of the largest items in the business of the Oregon short line. There are very extensive summer and winter ranges extending hundreds of miles on either side of this road. Shipments are received from Washington Territory and Oregon, a magnificent sheep and horse-growing country. The large horse trade that has sprung up with the corn-raising states is one great and noteworthy feature. Full train-loads of horses are now shipped from this section to Nebraska, Kansas, and other eastern points. Fully 300 of these horses are in use on the Omaha street railway. They are found to be harder, more perfect in limbs and lungs, and generally better than the horses raised in this section.

Shoshone also shipped 420,000 pounds of live sheep. The wool shipments from Idaho territory for 1886 aggregated over 6,000,000 pounds.

The lumber trade is rapidly increasing on the Oregon short line: the Paget Sound country and western Idaho supply points in Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, and as far east as the Missouri river with the finest bridge and dimension timbers to be obtained on the continent. It is estimated that this business alone will average a full train load a day during the coming season. The supply is practically inexhaustible, and when the lake regions are denuded of their forests the nation will be compelled to look to the northwest for the timber supply of the future.

Within the past thirty days about forty families from Nebraska and Eastern points have located around Caldwell, in the beautiful Boise valley, and taken up lands under the homestead and desert acts. Three or four large canal enterprises have recently been inaugurated, which will furnish the means of reclaiming from one to two million acres of the choicest fruit lands on the continent. For abundance and quality the Idaho valleys are not surpassed, for fruit growing by any section in the known world.

The indications at the opening of the year 1887 are that Idaho is about to witness a mining boom and a tide of immigration never before seen in the Northwest. The Union Pacific company has reduced freight rates and passenger fares very materially, and established a liberal policy in treating with the people of that new and fertile region.

Idaho is also noted for the grandeur of her scenery, including the sublime Shoshone falls, owned by Omaha citizens, for her soda springs and medicinal waters, and seems to have been provided by nature with everything that can make life worth living. Those who have wandered among the Rockies and gazed upon the summits of the great Snowy range before the sun had climbed high enough to turn the crystal rivers into silver and light up the plains with glory, have seen in the dim light of the dawning day the white peaks suddenly gleaming as though the gates of the other world had opened and a flood of the radiance from within had been permitted to fall on the snow; so high up that the footsteps of man and the dust of the world had never been able to contaminate it. The scene is brighter than the stars on the sea, and the dazzling splendor of jewels cannot compare with it. This glittering appearance is called by the Indians "Idaho," and the nearest English language can express it as "the gem of the mountains," with which name the territory seems to have been justly endowed. As the star of India is among precious stones, so Idaho seems to be among the mountain commonwealths—guiding star to those who leave the east to find something a little nearer heaven on earth. Thousands and tens of thousands will follow it in 1887 and the coming years, and will not be disappointed in their expectations. [Omaha Republican, January 7, 1887.]

Patterson Items.

A revival is being held at this point, conducted by Rev. Stewart, of Colby. There is a large attendance, and much interest is being manifested.

Literary discontinued this week on account of church.

Wm. Waller Williams and Miss Cora Neil were married last Sunday. The boys gave him a "round-up" and they all got away on Monday night, while G. H. Hunter was attending church, some one broke into his house. Some parties passed and seeing a

light thought Mr. Hunter at home, and discovered who the party was who did the deed. Now, we will say if that certain individual will go and pay Mr. Hunter for what he did, and pay other damages, nothing will be said, if not, other steps will be taken. The individual is fond of pigs.

Mr. Skink, whose residence was on 34, sold to Mr. Cousins; consideration, \$30.00 and a two-dollar watch.

January 13th, to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson a daughter, usual weight, and Christopher is happy.

Vox Populi.

Baldwin Neighborhood.

As this is my first attempt at correspondence with the Cat, I will be as brief as possible and try to do better next time.

Mr. P. N. Davis will soon be back on his homestead again to the regret of one or two around here.

The surveyors have made a permanent survey, so they say, across Ed Teal's claim, taking off a corner of his house. Poor Ed. A very enjoyable affair occurred at Mr. Baldwin's January the 11th, which was nothing more than a neighborhood gathering. Plenty of turkey, pudding, cake, disappeared very rapidly, and after dinner all the men betook themselves to Jim Hudson's only a few feet distance, and had a pleasant time playing games. Among the guests were: S. J. Rowe, a jolly good fellow, and Pete Brady, another one of our best carpenters, and last but not least Jim Hudson, a steady young man who owns a claim and means to stick to it. We hope all had a good time.

Ed Teal spent two days in the country at W. M. Baldwin's this week, and was one of the jolly fellows that devoured so much turkey and pudding.

Jim Howard has enough railroading for awhile.

Sam Rowe proves up January the 20th, and intends to take a trip to Ohio. We all hope to see him back again soon, as Sam is a jolly good fellow, and we all hate to lose him.

I will wind up and bid you all adieu. Next week I will try and give some description of the improvements of our neighborhood in the last six months, which we all know goes ahead of anywhere else in Thomas county.

T. B.

Quickville Items.

C. H. Kramer is putting down a well. C. H. is one of our sturdy farmers, and takes well with the girls of Quickville.

Geo. Mullen and R. T. Hemling are contesting each other claims this week at Oberlin. They are both prominent lawyers.

Wonder who it is that takes the old folks to the dance, and lets some one else take the girl. You want to do better than that, John.

G. W. Overhauser is having his threshing done. Mr. Billings, of Yorktown, is doing the job. He has a good machine, and does excellent work. So much for Yorktown.

The renowned trotting team, namely, Red Cloud and Sitting Bull, are owned by F. E. Drummond.

T. B. Reagan, has taken his team off the track for the season.

Frank White is back on his claim.

Henry Johnston has put it down as a fact that he won't back it another summer. Stick to it, Harvey.

Mr. Donovan has moved onto his claim northeast of Quickville. Mr. D. is a good citizen and knows how to drive oxen.

Mr. Southard has contested John Kraton's claim. Ain't you a little fast, Bob?

F. W. Ladd has his threshing done, and anyone wishing millet seed will do well to call on him.

H. B. Rowson is putting down a well. R. B. intends to stay.

Miss Maggie Clark was on the sick list last week, but is better at this writing.

Wonder who is the best man in Thomas county now, Mr. Bremer, eh?

Mr. Lewis, of Copeland, was around soliciting orders for trees. Mr. L. is a good citizen. The girls are pleased to see the smiling faces of Messrs. Gatewood & Brown back from Rawlins county, where they have been visiting their many friends.

SALLY.

Otterbourne Items.

Owing to absence from home our items failed to materialize last week.

But how is this for winter. Almost everybody in this neighborhood is talking of putting up ice; but talk is cheap—it takes money and some hard cold knocks to put it up. J. W. Gilmore claims to have 200 tons in the house now, and is going to put up about 40 to 60 tons more yet.

W. H. Archer has about 25 tons up, and is not done yet. G. W. Shill contemplates housing some. Mr. Smith says he is going to house 1,000 tons, but we don't believe he will get over 999 tons. From such appearances ice will be as cheap as it was high last year.

Our school district is to be divided, 24 miles being cut off the north side of the district. A move is also being made to cut some off the east, but that petition will be remonstrated vigorously.

T. B. Stanton has moved onto the N. J. Fuel claim.

The woman suffrage question was warmly discussed at our literary last Tuesday evening, and decided that she should vote. Officers were elected as follows: I. H. Fort, president; H. W. Marshall, vice president; O. A. Giese, secretary; Ed Crumly, treasurer.

Mr. Wm. Barber, from Neukolls county, Nebraska, arrived here last week. He has a claim 1 1/4 miles east of Otterbourne.

Jno. Stephens sold 100 shocks of fodder to Geo. Miller last week. This cold weather is trying on stock that has to rustle.

Jack Pike and Charlie Marks stopped one night last week with J. W. Gilmore, while en route to Oberlin.

Thos. Trump was down from Sherman county last week.

J. L. Stephens froze his nose a week ago last Sunday, and I guess he will lose part of it. But he has the consolation that he will have plenty left if he does lose half of it.

Mr. A. Ketchum is putting up ice for Martin Bros.

Grant McPherson proved up last Saturday. Myron Lynde has bought his brother Eugene's claim, and will move his family there soon. Gene contemplates going to Colorado.

No sickness has been reported to us this week.

Mr. Clark, a brother-in-law of Mr. McCumber is here on a visit.

Mr. McWhitney's household goods and two cars of cattle arrived in Oberlin last week. His cattle are thoroughbred Galloways.

From a late exchange we learn that Geo. Ames, who has a claim 15 miles southeast of Colby, has been spending the winter in Cass county, Nebraska, was killed accidentally while out hunting. He and another person were together in a sleigh, when the horse became frightened and turned, upsetting the sleigh and discharging the gun, which struck George in the right side of the stomach, causing a terrible wound from which he died in a few hours.

AVATAR.

Yorktown Items.

Holidays over. Weather very cold at present. Dances numerous. Some of the dancers were either full or ab-

sent minded one night from the language that was used on the highway and the depredations that were committed in the neighborhood. Hope we will hear no more of it.

The boys have finished a well for Mr. Herling and are at Mr. Rawson's getting their board.

Miss Ellie Lawrence was disappointed in getting her school last week.

Mr. Hoyt is reported quite sick with inflammation of bowels.

Wendell Items.

Weather cold. News scarce.

Mr. Franklin is digging him a well.

Wm. Summers says they have a 94 pound boy at their house.

That Christmas dinner at Mr. Middleton's was immense, and the young folks say they had a good time at night.

The old folks' dance at Fay Gibbs' was a success.

George Dimmitt is digging a well.

The Sunday school at Cumberland has stopped for the winter. There won't be any harm in people going visiting on Sunday hereafter.

Will Sharp don't go to see papa any more.

Joe Barber puts in his time hunting horses, and John Filley is hunting a woman.

Emet Barnett is on his claim.

Mr. Stobie came home Friday.

A splendid dinner was served at Mr. Dowd's on New Year's Day.

E. Halliday stays over near Gem Ranch.

Wm. Chapman is teaching the Cumberland school.

NOOZE.

Prairie Temple Items.

I took up my pen this cold winter night. And thought a few items for your paper I would write.

Quite a number of our neighbors have skipped for the East.

Thinking this place too cold for man or beast. The curly-headed buck I spoke of before.

Has gone to Missouri till cold weather is over. I think he will find it most cold enough there.

To freeze all of the kinks out of his beautiful hair.

While out here it has been so sunny and warm.

And as yet we have had but one bad snow-storm.

In Iowa they had 6 weeks sleighing in December.

That's more than we have here since I can remember.

I called of late on a sick friend over the way. She said she was feeling much better that day.

For a long time she has been so very, very ill. They feared they would lose her; but she is with them still.

She speaks much in praise of the doctor she has had.

And feeling much better she can't help feeling glad.

She told me, as she smiled so comical and wise. If he cures me I'll lift him in my arms to the skies.

George Achen is digging for Mr. Al Roth a well.

How deep he must go I am sure I can't tell. Mr. Cole is fencing a pasture they say.

He thinks it will save the trouble of putting up hay.

Mr. Dilatush is fencing a 100-acre lot.

Plenty of pasture in winter is much better for stock.

Mr. Denne is working on the railroad of late. He thinks it pays much better than hauling up freight.

Mrs. Swales has gone east visiting again. While he keeps back in his hut on the claim.

LONELY OLD MAID.

Witness our hands this 4th day of January, A. D. 1887.

W. H. KINGERY, R. B. ELLIOTT, Wm. BALDWIN, M. S. BUDLONG.

The following counts were allowed in the case of the state of Kansas vs. Kilt Mudgett, Geo Wright, W. R. Lewis, A. M. McKnight; M. S. Budlong, Justice of the peace, fees \$13.40

Witnesses: J. E. Lemmon, 2 days, 40 miles travel 5 00 J. W. McGreevy, 2 days 1 00 J. A. Walker, 1 day 50 A. B. Berry, 1 day 50 W. J. Jones, 1 day 50 C. M. Hovey, 1 day 50 Pat Turvey, 1 day 50 T. P. Feehan, associate justice 4 00 T. P. Feehan, assistant to write out evidence 90 L. T. Hayden, witness, 1 day 50 Morris Turney, witness 2 days, 12 miles 2 20 A. B. Jardine, witness 1 day, 6 miles 1 10 John Collier, witness, 1 day 50

Whereas no school levy for taxes was made as required by law in such cases made and provided for school purposes in school district No. 11 in Rovohi township, Thomas county, State of Kansas, it is hereby ordered and adjudged by us as county commissioners of said county, state of Kansas, that all amounts of money paid to the county treasurer of Thomas county, state of Kansas, for school tax in said district No. 11, be paid back to such persons as have already paid them, the said school taxes in said district No. 11, for the year 1886; and it is hereby further ordered and adjudged by us as county commissioners of Thomas county, state of Kansas, that all school taxes now standing against any and all persons in school district No. 11, in Rovohi township, in Thomas county, state of Kansas, for school purposes of the year 1886, be stricken from the books of the county treasurer of Thomas county, state of Kansas, by the county treasurer of Thomas county, state of Kansas.

Given under our hands this 5th day of January, 1887.

FRANK PINGREE, Wm. H. SMITH, County Commissioners.

Whereas it has been made to appear to us that an error and mistake was made in the equalization of the property belonging to the Chicago lumber company, in Thomas county, state of Kansas, it is hereby ordered and adjudged by us as county commissioners of Thomas county, state of Kansas, that the assessment made against the Chicago lumber company in Thomas county, state of Kansas, the same being \$3,000, be lessened from \$3,000 to \$2,500. Given under our hands this 5th day of January, 1887.

FRANK PINGREE, Wm. H. SMITH, County Commissioners.

Moved and carried that all fees derived from school lands in any manner be allowed the county clerk for himself.

Recess till 1 p. m.

Salary of county clerk. Moved and carried that the salary of the county clerk be fixed at one thousand dollars per annum in county scrip.

Moved and carried that the salary of county attorney be fixed at three hundred dollars in scrip.

Moved and carried that the county clerk be instructed to procure the subscription list for the court house and deliver same to county attorney who is instructed to collect the same at once.

Moved and carried that the county clerk be instructed to procure \$750 insurance on books of the county.

The following order was made:

That the county clerk is ordered to credit J. Rutherford with \$200.00 exemptions and deduct said amount from assessment already charged to treasurer.

Moved and carried to let the county printing for one year to the Thomas county, at the rate of 75 per cent of legal rate in scrip.

The following were appointed as viewers for road petitioned for by W. H. Kingery, Jack Dulen, Henry Sayers and Hiram Wilson.

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners of Thomas county:

The undersigned respectfully petition your honorable body to lay out, establish and open to public travel in said county, a public road, as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of section thirty-one (31), town seven (7), range thirty-three (33), thence west to the northwest corner of section one (1), town eight (8), range thirty-five (35), thence south one mile to the northwest corner of section twelve (12), thence west two miles to the northwest corner of section ten (10), town eight (8), range thirty-five (35), thence south one mile to the northeast corner of section sixteen (16), thence west to the county line, ending at the northwest corner of section eighteen (18), town eight (8), range thirty-six (36), and we respectfully represent that each of us is a household-er of said county, residing in the vicinity of where said road is proposed to be laid out, and that said road if so laid out will be of public utility.

(Signed) W. H. Kingery, R. B. Elliott, A. S. Nowland, Wm Waters, M. S. Budlong, S. W. Waters, C. E. Pendarvis, C. H. Kern, Geo F Pulsifer, Alvin Bieber, S. P. Miller, S. C. Mills.

Sworn by J. M. Summers.

The following road petitioners' bond was given and approved:

W. H. Kingery, R. B. Elliott, A. S. Nowland, Wm Waters, S. W. Waters, C. E. Pendarvis, C. H. Kern, Geo F Pulsifer, Alvin Bieber, S. P. Miller, S. C. Mills.

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